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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE 4692
RUEHAP/AMEMBASSY APIA IMMEDIATE 1090
RUEHBP/AMEMBASSY BAMAKO IMMEDIATE 9251
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 8639
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE 4300
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE 6507
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE 1522
RUEHCH/AMEMBASSY CHISINAU IMMEDIATE 9180
RUEHCO/AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE 2239
RUEHDT/AMEMBASSY DILI IMMEDIATE 4882
RUEHKN/AMEMBASSY KOLONIA IMMEDIATE 1682
RUEHKR/AMEMBASSY KOROR IMMEDIATE 1337
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KYIV IMMEDIATE 6783
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE 6148
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE 1202
RUEHPOD/AMEMBASSY PODGORICA IMMEDIATE 1149
RUEHPB/AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY IMMEDIATE 0958
RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE 8681
RUEHSN/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE 0636
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE 8923
RUEHDG/AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE 5234
RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO IMMEDIATE 9137
RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE IMMEDIATE 5391
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI IMMEDIATE 7855
RUEHTG/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE 3286
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 4577
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA IMMEDIATE 1580
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE 4732
RUEHUM/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR IMMEDIATE 6046
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE 5529
RUEHYE/AMEMBASSY YEREVAN IMMEDIATE 5722
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB IMMEDIATE 1031
RUEHLA/AMCONSUL BARCELONA IMMEDIATE 2455
RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE IMMEDIATE 1377
RUEHMRE/AMCONSUL MARSEILLE IMMEDIATE 1852
INFO RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE 0648
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 2194

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 063968

SIPDIS

CONSULATE FLORENCE FOR SAN MARINO
CONSULATE MARSEILLE FOR MONACO
CONSULATE BARCELONA FOR ANDORRA
CONSULATE PORT MORESBY FOR VANUATU

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EUN](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#)

SUBJECT: PRESS STATEMENT ON US-EU PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE
DECLARATION

REF: A. 2008 STATE 40380 B. 2008 STATE 38600 C. 2007 STATE 147620

11. (U) This is an action request. Please see para 2.

12. (U) Department requests action addressees to approach respective Foreign Ministries to thank them for their support for the prisoners of conscience declaration and provide a courtesy copy of a draft press statement the USG plans to issue June 17 through the Department Spokesman and the U.S. Mission to the United Nations to highlight the release of the declaration. Additionally, Embassies Canberra, Wellington and Ljubljana should be thanked for the critical role they played lobbying countries to support the declaration. If appropriate, co-sponsors should be encouraged to issue similar press statements for domestic audiences and through their UN missions in New York. We have already approached the EU to ask that they issue a statement, but EU member states are urged to also issue statements on a bilateral basis.

13. (U) Following is the text of the draft press statement on Prisoners of Conscience, which may be left as a non-paper.

Draft Prisoners of Conscience Press Statement

The United States is pleased to join the 27 members of the European Union and 36 other countries from all parts of the world in co-sponsoring a declaration at the United Nations on the plight of prisoners of conscience. The Prisoners of Conscience Declaration, which was entered into the United Nations record and circulated to all Member States on June 17, calls on all nations to work for the freedom of prisoners of conscience throughout the world in accordance with the principles set forth sixty years ago in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The declaration commits co-sponsor nations to work for the freedom of all individuals who have been imprisoned for peacefully exercising fundamental rights to gather in public and to speak and publish opinions, including opinions that are critical of governments, and to make their release a key priority in their relations with other states.

We stand in solidarity with the courageous individuals around the globe who are imprisoned, often times in deplorable conditions, for exercising these inalienable rights, and we urge all United Nations Member States to work for the freedom of these individuals.
End text.

REPORTING DEADLINE

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17. (U) Posts are requested to use the SIPDIS caption and report the results of this demarche by June 17, 2008. Please forward individual country press statements on the prisoner of conscience declaration to DRL/MLGA Danika Walters and IO/RHS Rebecca Jovin on the unclassified system. Please contact Walters x74659 and Jovin x73902 if you have any questions.

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